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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following paragraph between paragraphs [0030] and [0031]:

Figure 3A is a schematic representation of a human heart and one embodiment of a catheter having an elongate body, an anchor zone, and tissue manipulators showing the position within the heart and blood vessels that provides correct orientation.

Please amend paragraphs [0045] and [0049] in the specification as filed as shown below:

[0045] One embodiment of the orientation catheter 11 and a Housing Catheter 18 and the Valve Immobilization Catheter (VIC) 19 in relation to these heart structures is depicted schematically in Figure 3 and Figure 3A respectively. The distal end 11 of the catheter is the one advanced through the body; the proximal end 13 is the end closest to the operator. In subsequent Figure, the proximal end is illustrated at the left portion of the Figure, and the distal end at the right, unless stated otherwise. A sheath 12 is placed through a central venous access and advanced through the inferior venae cavae 14, into the right atrium 15, and trans-septally into the left atrium 1 using the conventional cardiac catheterization technique. The catheter 11 is advanced through the sheath into the left atrium 1, between the anterior 3 and posterior 4 leaflets, into the LVOT 10, and through the aortic valve 8 into the ascending aorta 9. This position through the LVOT 10 orients the catheter with respect to the anterior mitral valve leaflet 3 and the posterior leaflet 4.

Please amend paragraph [0045] in the specification as filed and as amended in the *Response to Office Action* filed November 22, 2010, as indicated below:

[0049] The following embodiments generally refer to FIGS. 4 through 15. In one embodiment, the orientation catheter once in place in the ascending aorta may be

removed over a guide wire and the device Housing Catheter 18 advanced over the wire until its distal end is in the ascending aorta. See Figure 3A. The device Housing Catheter 18, like the orientation catheter 11, is made of material flexible and torqueable, preferably of a polymeric material but any other biocompatible material may be used. The device Housing Catheter 18 contains a central lumen through which the valve immobilization catheter (VIC) 19 can be advanced, and has in its wall holes 20, 21 (herein referred to as "portals") that, once the Housing Catheter 18 is in place in the ascending aorta with the assistance of the orientation catheter, are specifically aligned with the locations of the anterior 3 and posterior 4 leaflets to allow for the deployment of leaflet immobilization supports (LISs) 22, 23 incorporated into the VIC 19 that unfold and project out of the apparatus to immobilize the individual leaflets. The Housing Catheter 18 also contains holes within its walls for the extension of fixation devices 24 and 25 from the VIC 19. A distal end D of the housing catheter 18 can include an anchor zone AZ, as discussed below. The VIC 19 is a catheter with a central lumen for a guide wire, is made of material flexible and torqueable, and has a semi-rigid portion that contains the leaflet immobilization apparatus, which consists of the leaflet immobilization supports 22, 23, the spring hinge 26, and the fixation devices 24, 25. In an alternative embodiment, the fixation devices 24, 25 may be incorporated into another element of the catheter system such as the Housing Catheter 18, or in a separate portion of the VIC 19 at a distance from the other parts of the leaflet immobilization apparatus. In an alternative embodiment, the device Housing Catheter 18 and VIC 19 may be incorporated into a single catheter with a movable core and may contain a central lumen for a guide wire.

Please amend paragraph [0072] in the specification as filed and as amended in the Response to Office Action filed November 22, 2010, as indicated below:

[0072] As discussed previously herein, the present invention also provides a variety of catheters, for performing the procedures disclosed herein. In accordance with one aspect of the present invention, there is provided a catheter for accessing the heart. The catheter comprises an elongate flexible body, having

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a proximal end and a distal end. The distal end includes an anchor zone AZ (e.g., as in Figures **3A and** 4-12). At least one tissue manipulator is carried by the flexible body, proximally of the anchor zone AZ.